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# **National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS): Recommendations, Status and Plans**

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# Outline



- **The NIDIS Vision and Recommendations**
- **Institutional Roles: NOAA, NDMC, USDA/USGS**
- **NOAA NIDIS-Directed Programs and Plans**



# NIDIS



- **On the federal radar**
  - ***White House***
    - The CENR Subcommittee for Disaster Reduction has included drought as a “Grand Challenge”
    - IWGEO is developing a draft plan for NIDIS as a “Near Term Opportunity”
  - ***Congress***
    - Explicitly addressed in draft Domenici/Rehberg Drought Bill
- **A comprehensive, user-friendly, web accessible system to serve the needs of policy and decision makers at all levels – local, state, regional, and national – concerned with drought preparedness, mitigation, and relief/recovery.**
- **Builds upon the ideas and lessons learned from the U.S. Drought Monitor, a multi-agency activity, with active participation and co-authorship by University partners**



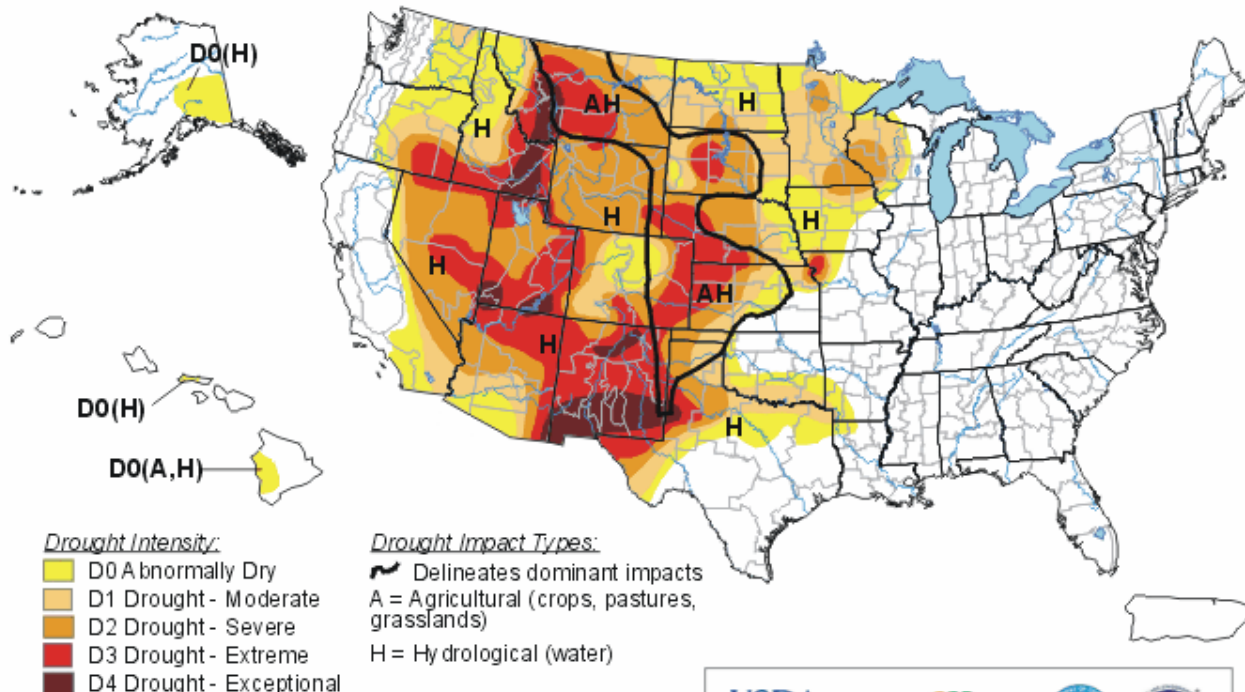
# NIDIS



## U.S. Drought Monitor

February 3, 2004

Valid 7 a.m. EST



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.  
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary  
for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, February 5, 2004

Author: Mark Svoboda, NDMC



# NIDIS



## Calls for:

1. **Action**
- 2a. **Observing systems**
- 2b. **Monitoring, analysis, assessment and prediction assessment tools**
- 2c. **Impacts monitoring and assessment**
3. **Supporting research**
4. **Support for drought preparedness planning**
5. **Interaction and education**

**Western Governors' Association (2004): [www.westgov.org](http://www.westgov.org)**



# Institutional Roles

- 1b:** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) should be the lead federal agency for coordinating implementation of NIDIS.
- 1c:** In anticipation of Congressional authorization of NIDIS, NOAA should immediately establish a broad-based Implementation Team to carry out those aspects of NIDIS that can be accomplished through existing authorities and resources.



# Implementation/Leadership Team

- 2a:** “should explore partnership opportunities with the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) ...”
- 2b:** “should identify and evaluate current and historical data sources on climate, water supply and storage capabilities, and drought indices ...”
- 2c3:** “identify opportunities to use existing agency collection programs to gather additional data relevant to drought impacts.”
- 3a6:** “Encouraging all relevant federal agencies, in cooperation with the NIDIS Implementation Team, to expand their drought research portfolios by undertaking an analysis of existing research and identifying gaps.”
- 4b:** “should work in partnership with federal agencies responsible for drought assistance programs to analyze program triggers and make recommendations for improving program delivery.”
- 5a:** “should perform ongoing evaluation of the usefulness, usability and timeliness of NIDIS products.”



# Implementation/Leadership Team



- **NOAA is developing a plan and identifying resources for management of the Team starting in FY06 which will include establishment of an interagency office**
- **Team membership will include NOAA's principal federal partners for NIDIS:**
  - ***USDOI: USGS, USBLM, USBOR***
  - ***USDA: USFS, NRCS, RMA, NASS, WAOB/JAWF***
  - ***USDOD: Army COE***
- **NOAA plans to leverage NDMC to provide blueprints for NIDIS in addition to their other roles (next slide)**





# National Drought Mitigation Center



**2b6: “be a principal clearinghouse for tools designed to address the needs of the drought community.”**

**4a: “should help ... facilitate drought planning by providing information to aid in development of science-based triggers in preparedness plans.”**



# NOAA's Program Planning for NIDIS

- The President's FY06 Budget:
  - *COOP Modernization*
  - *Water Resources Initiative*
- Planning for FY07:
  - *Data integration and assessment tool development and integration at the Regional Climate Centers and NDMC*
  - *Assessment tool development and regional impacts and information needs research at Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments centers*
  - *Science input to preparedness by State Climatologists and NDMC*
  - *Outreach, education, and customer feedback by NWS regional and local offices*
- Major gaps to address for FY08 and beyond:
  - *Drought prediction research*
  - *An Integrated Surface Observing System (ISOS)*



# Critical Roles for NOAA's Principal Federal Partners

- Participation on the Implementation/Leadership Team and in the Management Office
  - Observing Systems
  - Drought preparedness planning \*
  - Interaction and education \*
  - Impacts monitoring and assessment!!! \*
- \* As both partners and users